

April 17, 1995

BYLAWS for the
INFORMS Section on Group Decision & Negotiation
A Section of the
INSTITUTE for OPERATIONS RESEARCH and the MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be INFORMS Section on Group Decision and Negotiation, of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). Herein it will be referred to as "The Section."

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The major purposes of The Section are:

- a. To focus broadly on the area of group decision and negotiation, i.e., on theories, empirical studies and applications concerning multiplayer group processes involving decision and negotiation. Relevant disciplines include, but are not limited to, game theory, gaming, behavioral science, computer group decision and negotiation support systems, negotiation theory, artificial intelligence, cognitive/behavioral sciences. The section aims to be a meeting ground for both researchers and practitioners interested in group decision and negotiation.
- b. To provide a continuing, specialized focus within INFORMS on the topic of group decision & negotiation, with the aim of identifying current and potential problems and contributions to their solutions.
- c. To lead in the development, dissemination and implementation of knowledge, basic and applied research and technologies on group decision and negotiation.
- d. To support efforts to extend, unify and integrate related branches of knowledge and practice.
- e. To support the free interchange of information, encourage discussion and interaction among individuals having interest in the field of group decision and negotiation by providing the opportunity for these individuals to meet and to

exchange information, ideas, experiences and techniques.

- f. To stimulate the type of cross-fertilization which can best be accomplished within the framework of a professional organization.
- g. To identify, codify, synthesize and interpret knowledge, tools and techniques useful to group decision and negotiation, and to promote high professional standards and integrity in all work done in the field.
- h. To encourage the education of students and the continuing education of practitioners in this field of knowledge.

The Section is organized and will be operated exclusively for scientific or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- a. Any persons interested in group decision and negotiation may become a member of this Section by completing a membership application and submitting it with the proper dues.
- b. All members shall have equal rights, duties, and privileges. Dues shall be payable in the Fall each year.
- c. Membership and participation shall be free from discrimination based on race, religion, ethnic group, national origin, handicap, sex, or sexual orientation.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

The officers shall be Chairperson, Two Vice-Chairpersons, Secretary and a Treasurer.

CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson shall be the chief executive officer of The Section and shall have general supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of The Subdivision. He/She shall preside at all meetings of The Subdivision.

He/She shall appoint the Chairperson of and be an ex officio member of all standing committees and shall have the general powers and duties of management usually vested in the Chairperson of a professional organization. He/She shall

also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Council or the Bylaws.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: MEETINGS

The Vice-Chairperson: Meetings shall, in the absence or disability of the Chairperson, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chairperson and shall perform such other duties as the Executive Council or the Bylaws shall prescribe. He/she shall be responsible for recommending and, upon approval of the Executive council, arranging for meetings, topics and speakers.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: PUBLICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

The Vice-Chairperson: Publications and Membership shall be responsible for publications including a possible newsletter, for membership and for other duties, all as approved by the Executive Council.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, a book of minutes and actions of all meetings of the Executive Council and The Subdivision. He/She shall conduct necessary correspondence with members of The Subdivision, The Institute, and others.

TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive all funds of The Section and be responsible for them. He/She shall record the dues status of each member and present reports of the financial condition of The Subdivision, when required by the Executive Council. He/She shall disburse the funds of The Section when so authorized by the Executive Council. The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing the financial reports and the Secretary for transmitting that information to INFORMS.

TENURE

Officers of The Section shall be elected by mail ballot to serve for two years. Their terms of office shall begin on the first day of September of the election year. Officers may be renominated for re-election.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1. PURPOSE

The Executive Council shall be responsible for the management of the affairs of The Section, and shall call and organize meetings, and perform such other functions as may be prescribed in the Bylaws. It is responsible for suggesting changes to the Bylaws to the membership.

Section 2. CONSTITUTION

The Executive Council shall consist of the Chairperson, the Two Vice-Chairpersons, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. NOMINATIONS

By November 1 of an election year, the Executive Council shall appoint three members of The Section to serve as members of a Nominating committee, which will select at least one candidate for each office. The list of candidates shall be mailed to the members of The Section by January 1. A group of five members of The Section may nominate a candidate for office by petition submitted to the Chairperson by February 1. Nominations by petition and the list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee shall appear on the election ballot, as well as in a place for write-in votes. Voting shall proceed according to Section 2.

Section 2. VOTING

Ballots shall be mailed to The Section by the Secretary by March 1. Voted ballots must be received by April 15 and shall be counted by May 1. The secretary shall arrange to have the ballots counted by INFORMS members who are not candidates for office, or they may be counted under the supervision of the Executive Director of INFORMS. A plurality of qualified ballots cast for each office shall be necessary for election. Ties shall be resolved by means of a fair random process.

Section 3. VACANCIES

Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment made by the Chairperson and confirmed by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VII - DUES

The dues of The Section shall be established by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1. NOTICE

Meetings of The Section, for any purpose, may be called at any time by the Executive Council. Written notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be mailed to each member of The Section by the Secretary except if a meeting is held as part of a INFORMS society meeting.

Section 2. FREQUENCY

A minimum of one meeting of The Section shall be held each year, including at least one business meeting.

Section 3. RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern business meetings in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX - RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORMS

The Section and its officers are, accountable to INFORMS for all of their actions. The Section may be dissolved at any time, subject to the discretion of the INFORMS Board. In case of dissolution, remaining funds and other property to which The Section may obtain legal possession shall be forwarded to INFORMS.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. PROCEDURE

Proposals for adoption of new Bylaws, or repeal or amendment of these Bylaws, shall be presented to the membership of The Section at a business meeting. On approval by a majority of the members of The Section present, the Secretary shall prepare and mail a copy of the proposed amendments to be submitted to the membership of record of The Section within 30 days of the next meeting. A majority of those qualified and voting shall be necessary for adoption of the changes to the Bylaws, and shall become effective upon ratification by the INFORMS Board.

Section 2. RECORD OF CHANGES

Whenever an amendment or new Bylaw is adopted, or a Bylaw repealed, it shall be copied in the Bylaws by the Secretary. The date of the enactment of said changes shall also be recorded.